

HABITAT CONSERVATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

for the Washington County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP)

A **regular meeting** of the Habitat Conservation Advisory Committee (HCAC) was held in the Washington City Council Chambers on **August 23, 2016**.

Committee members present were:

Chris Blake, Chairman	Environmental Organization
Chris Hart, Vice Chairman	Local Development
Henry Maddux	Utah Dept. of Natural Resources (UDNR)
Larry Crist	U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service (USFWS)
Marc Mortensen	Citizen-at-Large
Lynn Chamberlain	HCP Administrator

Absent and excused were:

Dawna Ferris-Rowley	Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
John Bramall	Mayors Association

Also present were:

Lacey McIntyre	Washington County HCP – Recorder
Cameron Rognan	Technical Committee (HCP)
Julie Applegate	St. George News
Susan Crook	Citizen's for Dixie's Future
Celeste Maloy	Washington County Attorney
Blake Frei	Realtor
Bob Hermandson	Bush and Gudgeon
Lisa Rutherford	Citizen
Paul Van Dam	Citizen

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Chris Blake called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. noting that a quorum was present.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

The Consent Agenda is a means of expediting routine matters which come before the committee for approval. The consent portion of the agenda is approved by one (1) non-debatable motion. If any member wishes to remove an item from the consent portion of the agenda, then that item becomes the first order of business on the regular agenda.

- a. **Approval of Agenda**
- b. **Review and Approve Regular Meeting Minutes**
 - 1. **July 26, 2016**

Page 3, paragraph 2, sentence 3:

Changed from: “With the research he has done since he realized Bill Mader (HCP Administrator at the time) did place the fence on the fence line where the Hart family agreed it would be.”

Changed to: “With the research he has done since he realized Bill Mader (HCP Administrator at the time) did place the fence on the fence line where the Hart family accepted the HCP boundary was located.”

Page 4, paragraph 2, sentence 2:

Changed from: “Celeste Maloy mentioned that when Walt Plumb legally dedicated everything behind the fence in the HCAC meeting and the HCAC accepted that, the land became dedicated as and expressed dedication.”

Changed to: “Celeste Maloy mentioned that when Walt Plumb legally dedicated everything behind the fence in the HCAC meeting and the HCAC accepted that, the land became dedicated as an expressed dedication. “

c. Next Meeting Date

1. September 27, 2016

MOTION by Chris Hart to approve the Consent Agenda.

Seconded by Henry Maddux.

Discussion: None.

Vote was taken: All voted aye.

Motion passed.

3. DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

a. Chris Blake mentioned on item 6-c-1, the land acquisition efforts, he will be bringing up some issues on the Babylon property mainly because he is the Chairman of the Virgin River Land Preservation Association.

Chris Hart mentioned he has conflict with item 6-a-1, as he was part of a family business that owned the property in question under that item.

4. PRESENTATIONS

a. Ivins/Palisades boundary discrepancy – Blake Frei

Bob Hermandson from Bush and Gudgeon wanted to update the committee on the current boundary discrepancy in the Palisades development. There may be a chance of a land trade between the Palisades developer and Ivins City. More information on this issue will be coming in the next few weeks. When more information is available Mr. Hermandson will take the information to the Technical Committee for discussion.

5. UTILITY AND DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

- a. **None**

6. GENERAL BUSINESS

- a. **Consideration of Ivins/Palisades boundary discrepancy**

There was nothing to discuss regarding the current boundary discrepancy information.

- b. **Consideration of the HCP 2nd quarter report**

Henry Maddux asked about the possibility of recognizing those in the Reserve who leash their dogs. He brought up an idea from a past meeting about free ice cream certificates or some small hand out to show our appreciation to those who adhere to the dogs on leash rule. The HCP staff will look into that.

MOTION by Chris Hart to approve the 2nd quarter report.

Seconded by Larry Crist.

Discussion: None.

Vote was taken: All voted aye.

Motion passed.

- c. **Update on land acquisition efforts – Dawna/Lynn**

Chairman Blake mentioned the BLM acquisition of 5 acres of the Babylon area. He questioned who should acquire the water right for that area. Henry mentioned the Virgin River program cannot own it under state law but the DWR, BLM, county, or water district could hold it. Commissioner Gardner suggested it being transferred to the county or the water district.

Commissioner Gardner mentioned the information for the Long Valley exchange is in D.C. waiting for approval. As soon as the final approval comes back they can move ahead with that exchange.

- d. **Update on permit renewal – Larry/Lynn**

Larry Crist began by mentioning there are several steps that need to be taken in terms of the permit renewal. One step was to prepare a supplemental report to the HCP which has been completed under contract. The contractor, Mark Capone, worked with the county to get that done and it currently resides in the regional office with the HCP permit coordinator. That supplemental report needs to be finalized. He believes there needs to be some discussions regarding what modifications or clarifications the signatories to the HCP would like to see. Due to a staff shortage it has been difficult to get this done, but he has come up with some money to put towards a contract to help move the renewal forward to completion. Larry suggested discussing putting aside money to use for the contract in the upcoming budget discussions. Larry offered to send out an initial outline of steps to be accomplished for this renewal. He will send that to committee members in the next day or two. Mayor Hart suggested a work meeting to put together specifics. The committee agreed a work meeting is a good idea to discuss the budget and permit renewal adjustments.

e. Technical Committee Report

Cameron Rognan reported the committee discussed Kirk Willey's road proposal and mitigation options. During the next meeting the entire committee plans to go over the MOG ratio and discuss if the 5:1 ratio Ann McLuckie came up with is something everyone agrees upon. The committee also asked Mr. Willey to pursue a variance with the county.

The committee was supposed to discuss trail alignments for the proposed Sentierre trail. Kristen was not ready to discuss the Sentierre trail proposal but plans to be by next month's meeting. Mayor Hart wanted Cameron to pass along to the TC that he wants to see the west portion of the trail preserved, from Tuacahn Drive across the wash, so people can still use that section of trail to get to the paved trail along Tuacahn Drive. Cameron will take that message to the TC.

f. HCP Administrator's Report

Lynn Chamberlain mentioned the bids are due August 31st for the HALS and archeology work for the Long Valley exchange.

Henry asked about county fair attendance and the Red Cliffs booth that was set up at the fair. Lynn mentioned the HCP staff estimate about 4,000 people who visited the booth. Tank was there in the exhibit to pick the next president, and he was quite popular.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

This item is reserved for items not listed on this agenda. No action may be taken on a matter raised under this agenda item (three minutes per person).

a. None

8. MEMBER REPORTS & REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

a. The committee discussed scheduling a work meeting to talk about the permit renewal and budget. The committee decided to plan a work meeting for September 20th at 11:30 a.m. in the County building conference room. Marc mentioned he will be out of town but will submit his comments regarding the permit renewal beforehand.

b. Mayor Hart would like to see the Sentierre trail alignment issue on a future agenda once the TC has discussed it further.

c. Larry mentioned the Regional Director for FWS will be on the ground here touring some of the areas dealing with the Washington County HCP and Virgin River Program on September 13th and 14th.

9. ADJOURN

MOTION by Marc Mortensen to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded by Chris Hart.

Discussion: None.

Vote was taken: All voted aye.

Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 p.m.
Minutes prepared by Lacey McIntyre.